

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE P-9

THE NEW YORK TIMES
6 April 1983

Reports of Anti-Sandinist Aid Worry Senators

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 5 — Senator Howard E. Baker Jr., the majority leader, said today that many of his Senate colleagues were deeply worried about reports the Reagan Administration is actively supporting a guerrilla movement against the Government of Nicaragua.

Mr. Baker said he planned to discuss the reports with the bipartisan leadership of the intelligence committee in order "to hear from them on a confidential basis about what's going on." The committee has scheduled a closed session on Nicaragua next Tuesday.

"There's a great concern about it," the Tennessee Republican said of the Senate reaction to the reports.

In another development, two members of the Select Committee on Intelligence warned the Senate that United States involvement in Nicaragua, overt or covert, would be a violation of both United States law and the charter of the Organization of American States.

On the Senate floor Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Democrat of Vermont, said: "If one is to believe the detailed accounts seen in the press in recent days, the Administration is actively supporting, and perhaps even guiding, a large-scale anti-Sandinista guerrilla movement

now involved in open combat inside Nicaragua. From reported statements of some anti-Sandinista leaders, the undisguised aim of their military campaign is to overthrow the present Government of Nicaragua."

The Senator said afterward that because the White House had failed to deny reports of Administration involvement, he assumed the reports to be accurate.

Last September, Congress adopted the Boland amendment to the fiscal 1983 intelligence authorization. The amendment provided that "none of the funds provided in this act may be used by the Central Intelligence Agency or the De-

partment of Defense to furnish military equipment, military training or advice, or other support for military activities, to any group or individual, not part of a country's armed forces, for the purpose of overthrowing the Government of Nicaragua or provoking a military exchange between Nicaragua and Honduras."

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Democrat of New York, the deputy chairman of the intelligence committee, said in a Senate speech that the O.A.S. charter provided that "no state or group of states has the right to intervene, directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever, in the internal or external affairs of any other state."

Senator Moynihan said the Government in Managua was quickly going the way of other totalitarian regimes. "No one who saw how the Sandinistas treated the Pope on his recent trip to that land can doubt otherwise," he said. "Indeed, just this past week, the Government refused to allow the church to broadcast, over the church's own station, Easter week services without prior censorship."

"Nevertheless," Mr. Moynihan said, "the law is the law."

The Senator declined afterward to say whether he had independent confirmation of the press reports of United States involvement.

Senator Leahy visited Central America in January and prepared a classified report to the committee on that trip. After his statement on the Senate floor, Mr. Leahy declined to say whether his report confirmed press reports of United States involvement in Nicaragua, except to say that it bore directly on the question of whether the Administration was complying "with both the letter and the spirit" of the Boland amendment.

"Based on what I've seen in the public press," he said, "and lack of White House denial, I have to assume that the intent of Congress is not being followed."

His major concern, he said, is maintaining the credibility of the intelligence committee.

"You may not like the law," the Senator told his colleagues. "You may not agree with the law. But it is the duty of the executive to enforce it, and the duty of the Congress to see that it is being enforced."